16. **Police.**—The strength of the Force stood at 1,750 at the end of 1089. The number of policemen prosecuted rose from 66 to 93, but the percentage of conviction fell from 12 to 6. The Government have insisted on the Criminal Courts exercising more freely the discretion of awarding compensation to accused persons, so as to place an effectual check on the vexatious prosecution of policemen. 9 cases of false coining were reported, against 13 in 1088, of which 8 were disposed of and one was pending trial at the close of the year. Of the 8 cases disposed of, 5 ended in conviction and 3 in acquittal.

17. **Military.**—A reorganisation of the Second Battalion was effected during the year, and the Pension Rules were revised in view to the men of this Battalion being placed on a footing of equality with those of the First Battalion.

18. **Central Prison.**—There was a further increase in the number of prisoners, their average daily strength rising from 468 to 509. The number of re-convicted prisoners, however, fell from 192 to 184, and the percentage of sick to strength from four to a little over one. There was a marked decline in Jail dysentery, owing to the preventive measures adopted on the advice of the Darbar Physician. The total earnings of the Central Prison rose from Rs. 67,451 to Rs. 72,668, the receipts of the year under manufacture and garden produce being greater than in 1088.

19. **Criminal Justice.**—The number of Criminal Courts rose from 67 to 70, the increase being due to the establishment of a temporary additional First Class Magistrate's Court at Kottayam and the Stationary Magistrates' Courts at Tiruvalla and Shertallay. The Magisterial powers of the Devicolam Tahsildar were withdrawn and a new Munsiff-Magistrate's Court was established at Devicolam. The number of offences reported rose from 18,811 to 19,618, and the percentage of convictions from 31 to 32. The number of juveniles tried and convicted fell from 133 and 49 to 73 and 18, respectively. Nine of the juvenile convicts were sent to the Reformatory. 17 out of 246 public servants prosecuted were convicted. The low percentage of conviction in the prosecutions instituted by heads of departments, *viz.*, 23, accentuates the need for the exercise of greater discrimination in launching prosecutions.

20. **Civil Justice.**—His Highness the Maha Raja was pleased to appoint Mr. K. Raman Menon, B. A., B. L., B. C. L., Barrister-at-Law, as the Chief Justice, and Mr. H. S. Chatfield, B. A., Barrister-at-Law, as the European Puisne Judge of the High Court. The temporary Third Bench of the High Court, which was originally sanctioned for six months, was continued for a further period of six months, on the expiry of which it was abolished. The number of *fresh* original suits fell from 65,474 to 64,289, while that of appeals rose from 3,784 to 4,079, the result being a fall in the number of institutions from 69,258 to 68,368. This decline was, however, nominal, being merely in small causes. On the whole, the arrears of original suits rose from 17,618 to 19,408 in the Munsiffs' Courts and from 637 to 842 in the District Courts. The number of suits of between one and two years' pendency and that of more than two years' pendency also showed an increase. The Munsiff's Court at Shencottah, which was abolished in 1087, has been recently revived, the Tahsildar-Magistrate of the taluk, who is a Graduate in Law, being appointed Munsiff in addition to his other duties.

21. **Registration.**—Four new Sub-Registry offices were opened during the year, the total number of offices in the State being thus raised to 72. The total number of documents presented for registration rose from 2,39,729 to 2,56,530, which is the highest on record. The gross receipts of the department rose from Rs. 5,10,789 to Rs. 5,58,311. The net receipts amounted to Rs. 3,61,552, the percentage of expenditure to the gr oss receipts being 35, against 37 in 1088.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

22. **Agriculture.**—The Agricultural Department continued to do useful work. Experimental cultivation, practical demonstration, the distribution of suitable manure,

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